



On behalf of the Vestry and congregation we welcome you to St Peter's Episcopal Church to our service today.

*Christine Fraser, Rector.*

**Rector: Reverend Canon Christine N. Fraser [cnfraser@btinternet.com](mailto:cnfraser@btinternet.com)**

**Rectory tel: 01592 204208 ; Mobile 07751 299804**

**Clergy; The Revd Bob Barrett [revd.bob@btinternet.com](mailto:revd.bob@btinternet.com)**

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The words in **Bold Type** are said or sung by everyone.

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*Introit Hymn:* 15 The Lord will come and not be slow

*Lighting the*

*Advent Candle:*

Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, just and true,  
to you be praise and glory forever!  
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets  
but in our days you speak through your Son  
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.  
Grant us your people to walk in his light  
that we may be found ready and watching  
when he comes again in glory and judgement;  
for you are our light and our salvation.  
**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The candle is lit.*

**Lord Jesus, Light of the world,  
the prophets said you would bring peace  
and save your people in trouble:  
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas-tide  
and show all the world God's love. Amen.**

*Collect:*

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*Collect(SPB)*

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen. **Amen.**

*Readings:*                *The Old Testament Reading and the New Testament Reading are read by a member of the Readers Group*

*First reading:*                *(Page 701 )Isaiah 40.1-11  
(SPB Romans 15.4)*

*Second reading:*                *(Page 301) 2 Peter 3. 8-15*

*Gradual hymn:*                7                Hills of the North rejoice

*Gospel acclamation:*                **Alleluia! Alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!**

*Gospel:*                *(Page 45) Mark 1 1-8  
(SPB St Luke 21.25)*

*Sermon:*                The Revd Canon Christine Fraser

*Intercessions:*                *Composed and prayed on behalf of the congregation by a member of the Intercessors Group*

*Peace:*    *A sign of the peace is exchanged with our immediate neighbours*

*Offertory hymn:*                11                O come, O come Emmanuel

*Administration of Communion:* **Communion will be offered in two kinds. In order to assist the chalice administrators please GUIDE the chalice by the bottom(not take the vessel from them) to receive wine.**

*Communion hymn:*                294                Just as I am

*Prayer after Communion:*                **Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

*Blessing:*                Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*Recessional Hymn:*                10                Long ago, prophets knew

Notices:

*All baptised Christians are warmly invited to share in Holy Communion. Gluten free wafers are available; please advise a sidesperson if you require this.*

*An Induction Loop is installed in church. Hearing aid users should adjust their aid to the T position.*

*Large-print copies of the liturgy are available on request*

**Worship:**

|                          |            |                               |
|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 10.00am    | Eucharist                     |
| Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 9.15am     | Eucharist (SPB)               |
|                          | 10:30 a.m. | Sung Eucharist (1982 liturgy) |

**Wi-Fi:** Wi-Fi is installed in the building. Passwords and access codes are available. Please ensure though that any mobile devices are switched off or on silent mode during services and meetings. Many thanks.

**Zumba:** Zumba will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 10.30am in the hall, all welcome. Zumba will resume on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024 after the Christmas break.

**Craft Group:** Craft resumes on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 2pm in the hall. All welcome

**Advent Course:** The Advent Course continues on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023 after the 10am midweek service in the small meeting room. The discussions will commence at 11am and it is intended to finish each session by 12.30pm. Please sign up on the noticeboard in the hall if you are intending to come.

**Church Decoration:** The church will be decorated for Christmas on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 10am.

**Christmas Hamper Raffle:** The Christmas Hamper Raffle will be drawn on 17<sup>th</sup> December after the Carol Service. Donations most welcome. Please place in the boxes provided. Many thanks.

**Health and Safety:** The Risk Assessment Register, Accident Book and First Aid Kit are situated in the Kitchen.

**Prayer Group** If you, or someone you know would like prayers said then please complete a slip and place in the woven box. Your request will be responded to.

**PA System:** Please ensure that the microphone is pointing at your mouth when you are using the lectern. Many thanks.

**Hospital Visits.** The local hospitals no longer allow access to their in-patient lists. If you, a relative or friend are admitted to hospital, please contact the Rector on 01592 204208 or [cnfraser@btinternet.com](mailto:cnfraser@btinternet.com) and visits will be arranged.

*Please pray for:*

All those in our own congregation, their families or friends who are ill, housebound or whose year's mind falls this week. Archbishop Stephen and the Karen people in Burma, Thailand and Sheffield  
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